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**ARTS EVERY DAY AWARDS \$15,000 TO BALTIMORE CITY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR COMMUNITY ART**

March 29, 2023, Arts Every Day (AED) awards \$15,000 to three Baltimore City Public Schools to implement large scale arts installations and collaborations that will have a long- term impact on their students and surrounding communities. This year’s projects include outdoor learning space with Francis Scott Key Elementary Middle School in collaboration with mural artist SolRaya Public Space, a community mural with Roland Park Elementary Middle School who is partnering with artist LaToya Peoples, and Elmer A. Henderson: A Johns Hopkins Partnership School’s ground plane mural project together with artist Jordan Lawson.

Each project will host at least one community day or dedication ceremony that is open to the public where schools, artists, local partners and neighboring communities will come together to share the work and celebrate everyone involved. Community Days will take place before June of 2023.

Arts Every Day serves as a strategic partner to the school district in advancing equitable access to the arts and implementing the 2018 Fine Arts Strategic Plan. The organization provides teacher professional development, arts integration technical assistance, and funding for student arts experiences, school-based public art projects, arts equipment, and supplies. The success of the work relies on the vibrant partnerships with district leaders, schools, educators, parents, students, artists, community and cultural organizations.

The Arts Every Day Public Art Grant for Baltimore City Public Schools is the only grant exclusively for Baltimore City Public Schools with the intention of supporting large scale, permanently installed projects that connect individual schools to local artists or organizations and their surrounding community. These projects serve as a source of pride and foster an appreciation for the arts and its influence on communities.

Since the start of the program in 2014, this initiative has grown to a competitive funding opportunity open to all Baltimore City Public Schools. Thanks to the generous support of the M&T Bank Charitable Foundation, the Creative Baltimore Fund, and the Maryland State Arts Council, the Public Art Grant for Baltimore City Schools will support three inspiring projects for the year 2023.

Public Art Grant for Baltimore City Public Schools Awardees for School Year 2023

Francis Scott Key Elementary Middle School: *Bringing Action, Joy & Color to the Outdoors*
Awarded \$5,000

An exterior wall mural project as a part of a larger revitalization of the outdoor space at Francis Scott Key Elementary Middle School in collaboration with mural artist SolRaya Public Space. The project will be helmed by a student working group composed of interested middle school students who will collaborate with the artist and students from other grades to engage in designing, planning, and creating the mural. According to the school, “the mural, along with additional seating, shade, and play structures, will help transform the area to a much more active, positive environment that encourages movement and social interaction.”

Roland Park Elementary Middle School: *Building an Equitable Foundation*
Awarded \$5,000

An exterior wall mural project at Roland Park Elementary Middle School in collaboration with artist LaToya Peoples that will engage students, staff, and the broader community in creating a space where all students are loved and protected. The mural will function as a piece of a larger school-wide arts integrated project where students are given space and support to write about their experiences with race and equity within the school community. These writing and literacy connections will serve as inspirations to the design process of the mural. The mural unveiling will include a community event showcasing student performances of poetry and more.

Elmer A. Henderson: A Johns Hopkins Partnership School: *A Walkway Through Our History*
Awarded \$5,000

An exterior ground plane mural project at Elmer A. Henderson: A Johns Hopkins Partnership School in collaboration with artist Jordan Lawson that will serve to bring a sense of community and fun to the school. Located on the front entrance walkway leading to the school’s main entrance, this mural will welcome students and community members into the school and broader neighborhood. Working in collaboration with the artist, students will engage in the design process to create a mural that tells and celebrates the varied and shared stories of the community.

About Arts Every Day

The past informs our future: As a result of past and present inequities, students in Baltimore City Public Schools have had little access to the robust arts education programs that are readily available in other Maryland school districts.

In 2005, Baltimore was one of eight cities in the country selected to be part of the Ford Foundation's Arts Integration and Education Reform Initiative. The following year, a coalition of arts education advocates from Baltimore City Public Schools, city officials, community artists, philanthropists, and leaders from city arts, cultural, and educational institutions came together with the goal of identifying the best ways to bring dynamic arts programming to Baltimore public schools.

In 2006, after securing additional Ford Foundation funding and under the leadership of a diverse and cross-sector board, a new non-profit organization – Baltimore Partners for Enhanced Learning was founded. The organization was renamed Arts Every Day in 2007 to reflect its goal that Baltimore City Public School students have access to arts education, arts-integrated instruction, and arts experiences at every grade level.

Today: Arts Every Day serves as a strategic partner to the school district in advancing equitable access to the arts and implementing the 2018 Fine Arts Strategic Plan. The organization provides teacher professional development, arts integration technical assistance, and funding for student arts experiences, school-based public art projects, arts equipment, and supplies. The success of the work relies on the vibrant partnerships with district leaders, schools, educators, parents, students, artists, cultural organizations, and our community.

Mission: The Arts: For every student, in every Baltimore City Public school, every day.

